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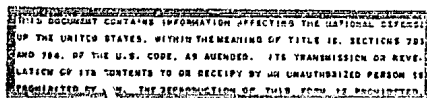
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Jen-min Jih-pao.

ARTICLE CRITICIZING CADRES' NEWSPAPER-READING HABITS  
ALSO REVEALS FIGURES ON CADRE UNITS

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The CCP is engaged in a program to ensure more thorough indoctrination of party cadres.

The reading of party newspapers -- important vehicles for effecting this program -- has admittedly been neglected by many party members operating in governmental and CCP organs in Peiping. On 6 July 1952, in an article published in the Party Life Section, the Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao revealed that:

1. Newspaper reading among personnel holding financial and commercial posts in Peiping organs is poor.
2. Some party cadres in organs of the Peiping Municipal Committee, CCP, and subordinate party committees do not read the papers.
3. Generally, party and governmental organs in Peiping have a "poor" rating with regard to newspaper reading among their personnel.
4. Study of current events and governmental policy is lax in organs of the Peiping Municipal People's Government and the Peiping Municipal Committee, CCP.

The reasons for these shortcomings were given as: (1) the purely professional and technical orientation of cadres, (2) the insufficient number of newspapers made available for study, and (3) the inadequate emphasis on current affairs studies for CCP cadres.

To correct these shortcomings, the following program was outlined by the Propaganda Department, Peiping Municipal Committee, CCP:

1. A conference of the subbranches of municipal organs will meet to clarify and reaffirm the importance of newspaper reading.
2. Propaganda officers in these municipal organs will effect current affairs study programs for cadres.

- 1 -

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3. Regular reports on the progress of current affairs studies will be made by the Propaganda Department and subordinate party committees.

4. Monthly current affairs examinations will be held for organ cadres.

The full text of the article, which gives information on the number of CCP cadres in Peiping committees and departments follows:

We have, in the past, concentrated unduly on leading workers and the inhabitants of Peiping in newspaper reading and current affairs study. Insufficient attention has been directed toward organ cadres (chi-kuan kan-pu) because we believed that their political consciousness was relatively high and that they would not neglect studies in the field of politics and current affairs. Actually, this was a mistaken idea: they did not read the papers and, consequently, performed poorly at their posts.

After a series of letters-to-the-editor columns of the Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao exposed the disregard for newspaper reading prevalent among certain personnel in Peiping municipal organs, we became aware of the error. In mid-May, our Propaganda Department issued a directive to various party committees in these organs and to the propaganda departments in the various municipal ward (ch'u) committees to investigate the state of newspaper reading. During this investigation, each unit carried out intensive current events tests among their personnel.

The results of the investigation carried out in 13 units (tan-wei) of the bureaus and offices of the Peiping Municipal Government and in ten units comprising the Organization Department, United Front Department (both organs of the Peiping Municipal Committee, CCP), Peiping Labor Union Headquarters, Public Security Bureau, Fifth Ward Committee, Second Ward Government, and Eighth Ward Government -- a total of 28 governmental and party organs -- are as follows:

In the 13 units of the bureaus and offices of the Peiping Municipal Government, 7,772 functionaries are able to read newspapers and 1,286 papers are under subscription (an average of six persons per newspaper). Regular and earnest newspaper readers -- 1,942 -- constitute 25 percent of the total; careless readers (those who read only headlines or whatever interests them) -- 4,587 -- constitute 59 percent; and infrequent or nonreaders -- 1,242 -- constitute 16 percent.

Of 845 functionaries comprising the ten units of the Second Ward Government, 837 are able to read newspapers. Regular and earnest newspaper readers -- 205 -- constitute 24.5 percent of the total; careless readers -- 468 -- constitute 55.9 percent; and infrequent or nonreaders -- 164 -- constitute 19.6 percent.

According to statistics of the 16 units of the department stores under the Commerce Bureau, financial and commercial organs have a total of 5,333 functionaries. Regular and earnest readers -- 1,367 -- constitute 25.8 percent of the total; careless readers -- 2,566 -- constitute 48.1 percent; and infrequent or nonreaders -- 1,398 -- constitute 26.1 percent.

The cooperatives have 537 functionaries capable of reading newspapers. Regular and earnest readers -- 57 -- constitute 10.6 percent of the total; careless readers -- 290 -- constitute 54 percent; and infrequent or nonreaders -- 190 -- constitute 35.4 percent.

A majority of the functionaries in the Organization Department and the United Front Department, Peiping Municipal Committee, CCP, and in the Fifth Ward Committee are able to read newspapers. There are 32 functionaries in the Fifth Ward Committee. All are regular newspaper readers, with the exception of three cadres (reporters) who do not read the papers regularly.

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

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Generally, all cadres of the Public Security Bureau are regular newspaper readers.

The conditions described above reveal that there is a critical neglect of newspaper reading in the financial and commercial system of the city; (in the cooperatives, it is most critical). Newspaper reading is poor, generally, in all municipal organs; in party committee organs, it is relatively good, but there are still certain cadres who neglect their reading.

The results of this survey show that, with the exception of a few organs whose achievements were relatively good, the test grades of a large number of organs were poor. Of the 889 functionaries included in tests of the personnel of the Culture and Education Bureau of the Peiping Municipal Government, the Organization Department and United Front Department of the Peiping Municipal Committee, CCP, the Peiping Labor Union Headquarters, the governments of the Second and Eighth wards, and plant managers, party branch secretaries, and chiefs of subordinate organs, only 280 passed. These constituted 31.5 percent of the total. Of the 58 members of the Organization Department, Peiping Municipal Committee, CCP, ten cadres did not pass. Of the 11 members of the United Front Department participating, three cadres did not pass. Of the 17 members of the Fifth Ward Committee participating, four cadres did not pass. These are relatively good results.

In other municipal organs, however, the average percentage of cadres (per organ) who failed was 50 or more. Of the 36 members of the Eighth Ward Government participating in these tests, only 12 cadres passed. Of the 416 functionaries comprising the nine units of the Second Ward Committee, 322 did not pass -- 77.4 percent of the total number examined. Of the 20 functionaries -- managers in the plants of the Eighth Ward Government, party branch secretaries, and chiefs of subordinate organs -- examined, only two passed. The average grade for this group was 34.3; they were all able to read newspapers and had even had the responsibility of writing reports, three functionaries had college qualifications, four had high- and middle-school qualifications, six had early middle-school qualifications, and seven had upper primary-school qualifications).

Relatively grave problems arose when the testing unit asked questions on current events and governmental policy. There were many functionaries who did not know that the papers had discussed extensively the Preparatory Conference of the Peace Conference for Asian and Pacific Regions. The results of questions asked concerning this Preparatory Conference revealed that 12 cadres in the Eighth Ward Government could answer none, and of the 20 functionaries -- cadres operating as party branch secretaries in the plants and as chiefs in subordinate organs of the Eighth Ward Government -- questioned, 12 cadres did not even know that the Preparatory Conference had taken place.

In the Labor Bureau of the Peiping Municipal Government, 12 cadres answered that the Preparatory Conference was the International Economic Conference.

Many functionaries could not answer, or answered incompletely, questions regarding the basic principles underlying regulations for the punishment of corruption. In the Eighth Ward Government, four party branch secretaries operating in the Ward's factories could not answer any of the questions; this was also the case with a deputy section chief, Second Subbureau, Public Security Bureau and a cadre in the Work Office, Labor Union, Second Ward Government, both of whom had been engaged in organizing shop employees during the Five Anti's drive. The director, Business Office, Peiping People's Bank Branch, answered the question on the regulations for the punishment of corruption as follows: 'In dealing with enterprises, be liberal with the state-operated and strict with the privately run.'

- 3 -

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explained that if the personnel -- new cadres in particular -- of our municipal organs do not concentrate their efforts on newspaper reading and fail to take note of national and international circumstances and party and governmental guiding-policy, then they will be estranged from all matters of politics and the masses. They will be unable to carry out their activities. At the conference, concrete examples will be used to criticize and condemn the ideology of newspaper-neglect. It will be emphasized that if newspapers are not read and current affairs and governmental policy are not studied, a very grave error will have been committed. We want to make newspaper reading an indispensable part of the daily political life of the cadres.

2. Organ propaganda functionaries will be employed to strengthen leadership in the over-all organ propaganda network. The most important duty of organ propaganda functionaries will be to carry out current affairs studies among organ cadres.

3. Henceforth, the Propaganda Department, Peiping Municipal Party Committee, organs in the various party committees, and ward committees will each set up a system of reporting on current affairs (the Propaganda Department will report bimonthly and organs in the party and ward committees will report monthly). In addition, the Propaganda Department will regularly and extensively investigate newspaper reading among the various municipal organs; organs in the party and ward committees will regularly investigate newspaper reading in the various sub-branches and regularly indoctrinate leadership personnel in these subbranches. Subbranch leadership personnel will be told that concern over the state of newspaper reading among their cadres is the most important aspect of guiding the political life of the cadres. The individualistic belief of comrades who think that they need not lead organ cadres in newspaper reading will be overcome.

4. A system for testing in current affairs will be established and tests will be conducted monthly. This will stimulate the appetites of organ cadres for newspaper reading.

Peiping Municipal Committee, CCP Propaganda Department

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- 5 -

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